

December 1, 2024
Advent I

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ENTRANCE SONG: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Verse 1

O Come O Come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus 1

Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to you
O Israel

Verse 2

O come our Dayspring from on high
And cheer us by your drawing nigh
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight

Chorus 2

Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to you
O Israel

Verse 3

O come Desire of nations bind
In one the hearts of all mankind
Oh bid our sad divisions cease
And be yourself our King of Peace

Chorus 3

Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to you
O Israel

INVOCATION:

L: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
P: **Who shows us His favor and takes away our disgrace.**

CONFESSION OF SIN:

- L:** God of promise, we lift up our souls to You, for You know us through and through.
- P:** **Heavenly Father, remember our sins no more but rather remember us with Your steadfast love. Show us Your ways; teach us Your paths; lead us in justice and truth, and cast our guilt as far as east is from west for the sake of the life, death and resurrection of the Promised One, Jesus Christ.**
- L:** God's favor rests on you! For the sake of Christ your sin is forgiven, you are a child of the Most High, an inheritor of an eternal promise and a recipient of divine mercy; go in the way of peace.

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING:

- L:** The King shall come when morning dawns, and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.
- P:** **Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun, that lights the morning sky.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Jeremiah 33:14-16*

"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will keep the promise that I made to Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time, I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David. He will do what is fair and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live securely. Jerusalem will be called The Lord Our Righteousness. - ©GW

EPISTLE READING: *I Thessalonians 3:9-13*

We can never thank God enough for all the joy you give us as we rejoice in God's presence. We pray very hard night and day that we may see you again so that we can supply whatever you still need for your faith. We pray that God our Father and the Lord Jesus will guide us to you. We also pray that the Lord will greatly increase your love for each other and for everyone else, just as we love you. Then He will strengthen you to be holy. Then you will be blameless in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all God's holy people. - ©GW

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL:

Luke 1:24-45

Later, his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and didn't go out in public for five months. She said, "The Lord has done this for me now. He has removed my public disgrace."

Six months after Elizabeth had become pregnant, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a city in Galilee. The angel went to a virgin promised in marriage to a descendant of David named Joseph. The virgin's name was Mary.

When the angel entered her home, he greeted her and said, "You are favored by the Lord! The Lord is with you."

She was startled by what the angel said and tried to figure out what this greeting meant.

The angel told her,

"Don't be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with God.
You will become pregnant, give birth to a son,
and name Him Jesus.
He will be a great man
and will be called the Son of the Most High.
The Lord God will give Him
the throne of His ancestor David.
Your son will be king of Jacob's people forever,
and His kingdom will never end."

Mary asked the angel, "How can this be? I'm a virgin."

The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the holy child developing inside you will be called the Son of God.

"Elizabeth, your relative, is six months pregnant with a son in her old age. People said she couldn't have a child. But nothing is impossible for God."

Mary answered, "I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you've said happen to me."

Then the angel left her.

Soon afterward, Mary hurried to a city in the mountain region of Judah. She entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard the greeting, she felt the baby kick. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child that you will have. I feel blessed that the mother of my Lord is visiting me. As soon as I heard your greeting, I felt the baby jump for joy. You are blessed for believing that the Lord would keep His promise to you." - ©GW

ADVENT LITANY:

- L:** “Behold, I am coming soon!’ says the Lord and ‘My reward is with Me!’
P: “**Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life.**”
L: “Behold, I am coming soon!’ says the Lord
P: “**Blessed are those who keep the words of the prophecy in this book.**”

SERMON SONG: “Jesus, Coming Light”

Verse 1

Jesus Coming Light draw near, and spark within us hope
Though shadows fight with all their might they’ll never overcome
In brilliance you don’t come to blind, but only that the blind would see

Refrain 1

Hosanna Hallelujah—Jesus Coming Light draw near

Verse 2

Jesus Coming Light draw near and spark within us peace
May your children gather in its glow—warmth bids all come and see
When you return we’ll need no sun, but only Word made Flesh to shine

Refrain 2

Hosanna Hallelujah—Jesus Coming Light draw near

Verse 3

Jesus Coming Light draw near and spark within us joy
As a humble hearth You come to dwell—not speeding to destroy
Gladden hearts and brighten eyes—like sparkled rays in winter’s dark

Refrain 3

Hosanna Hallelujah—Jesus Coming Light draw near

Verse 4

Jesus Coming Light draw near
And spark within us love
Heart of Heaven lay among the low
In the star glow from above
With love illuminate your Church
That every soul would know its worth

Refrain 4

Hosanna Hallelujah—Jesus Coming Light draw near

MESSAGE: “Coming Soon: Joy” Luke 1:24-45

SONG OF THE DAY: “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Verse 1

Lo how a rose e’er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung
Of Jesse’s lineage coming
As prophets long have sung
It came a flow’ret bright
Amid the cold of winter
When half spent was the night

Verse 2

Isaiah ‘twas foretold it
The rose I have in mind
With Mary we behold it
The virgin mother kind
To show God’s love aright
She bore to us a Savior
When half spent was the night

Verse 3

O Savior child of Mary
Who felt our human woe
O Savior King of glory
Who dost our weakness know
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven
And to the endless day

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

℟: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,

begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING: *The Offering Box is located in the center aisle. If you so desire, Text Giving is now available by texting GIVE to 562-210-0463. For On-line Giving information, contact Maraley at mshaeffer@bethanylutheran.org or call 562-421-4711, ext. 21. Thank you!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father, Who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethany in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To prepare for communion you can find prayer prompts on the front page of the burgundy hymnal. Or simply pray: "Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation, You invite me to come to You; to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacred meal. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts. Amen."

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD:

L: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

*For those communing, who so desire, the center cups in each tray are **alcohol free**. The wafers on the stand next to the pillar pulpit side (when kneeling for communion) or on the stand in front of the baptismal font (when processing for communion) are **gluten free**.*

DISTRIBUTION SONGS: “There Will Be Rest”

Verse 1

Are You there
Are You listening
Do You care
Did You plan this

Pre-Chorus 1

Oh great God, Oh great God

Chorus 1

Savior of the nations come
Fill this world with grace and love
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
When all the world is torn apart
And victory remains with God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Will there be rest

Verse 2

You are here, You are listening
And You've met us, with forgiveness

Verse 3

You are here
You are listening
You hurt more
And weep with us

Pre-Chorus 2

You make all things new; God You make us new

Chorus 2

Savior of the nations come
And fill this world with grace and love
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Though the world is torn apart
The victory remains with God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
There will be rest

Bridge

Oh great God; You are so great God (4X)

Chorus 3

Savior of the nations come, and fill this world with grace and love
Hallelujah, Hallelujah
When all that's right shall be restored, and victory remains with God
Hallelujah, Hallelujah—There will be rest

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Verse 1

Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the world began to be
He is Alpha and Omega
He the source the ending He
Of the things that are that have been
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore

Verse 2

O that birth forever blessed
When the Virgin full of grace
By the Holy Ghost conceiving
Bore the Savior of our race
And the Babe the world's Redeemer
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore

Verse 3

O ye heights of heaven adore Him
Angel hosts His praises sing
Pow'rs dominions bow before Him
And extol our God and King
Let no tongue on earth be silent
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING:

[I]: The God of hope, fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Spirit, through Jesus Christ who’s coming we await.

CLOSING SONG: “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Verse 1

Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver
Born a child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

POSTLUDE

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SERVING GOD’S HOUSE TODAY:

Crucifer 9:30...Henry Cerulle

Lector 8:00...Josette and John Utke

Artist in Residence...Blake Flattley

Children’s Message...Alissa Brege

9:30...Steve Albers

Preacher...Pastor Kevin Kritzer

Keyboard...Pat Gagan

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If You’re a Visitor, WELCOME! We are so glad you have joined us for worship today. If you would like more information about Bethany and its ministries, please scan the QR code to the right. You will be directed to Bethany’s fillable information form.



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CHRISTMAS SEASON WORSHIP SERVICES

*“Come, Let Us Adore HIM”
worship with us this Christmastide.*



Wednesday Advent Worship Services

December 4th

December 11th

December 18th

6:30 PM at **Bethany Lutheran Church**

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Tuesday, December 24th

Family Evening Services at 3:00 and 5:00 PM at **Bethany Lutheran Church**

Evening Worship Service at 7:00 PM at **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

Evening Worship Service at 11:00 PM at **Bethany Lutheran Church**

Christmas Day Festival Service with Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 25th at 9:30 AM at **Bethany Lutheran Church**

There will be **NO** Christmas Day Service at **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

